#### (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

### (19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau



## 

# (43) International Publication Date 7 April 2005 (07.04.2005)

#### **PCT**

# (10) International Publication Number WO 2005/029948 A2

(51) International Patent Classification7:

**A01K** 

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2004/032408

(22) International Filing Date:

30 September 2004 (30.09.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/507,416

30 September 2003 (30.09.2003) U

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): LUCKY LITTER LLC [US/US]; Suite 2503, 1730 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60614 (US).

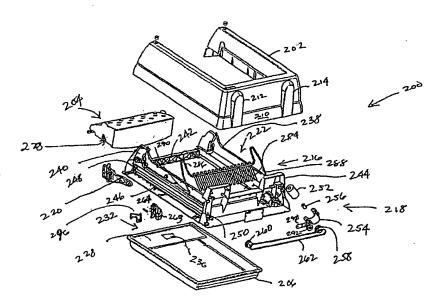
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): COOK, Alan, Jay [US/US]; 8933 North Kilpatrick Avenue, Skokie, IL 60076 (US). GRUBE, Kristin, William [US/US]; 6006 Hillside Avenue, West Drive, Indianopolis, IN 46220 (US). DEVLIN, Thomas, Edward [US/US]; 1 Fitchburg Street, Unit C305, Somerville, MA 02143 (US). GREASON, Jeff, Reed [US/US]; 20 Dover Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801 (US). ULRICH, Karl, Thatcher [US/US]; 316 North Essex Avenue, Narbeth, PA 19072 (US). ULRICH, Nathan, Thatcher [US/US]; 34 Sheep Road, Lee, NH 03824 (US). YAU, Chi, Lam [GB/US]; 2 Barry Street, Dover, NH 03820 (US).

- (74) Agents: PANIAGUAS, John, S. et al.; Katten Muchin Zavis Rosenman, 525 West Monroe Street, Suite 1600, Chicago, IL 60661-3693 (US).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SELF-CLEANING LITTER BOX



(57) Abstract: A self-cleaning litter box is disclosed which provides various advantages over the prior art. In particular, in one embodiment, the self-cleaning litter box is configured to use a cartridge which may include a litter compartment and a waste compartment. In another embodiment, the cartridge may be non-compartmentalized. The cartridge may be disposable, thus eliminating the need for the user to clean the litter tray and handle heavy litter containers. In other embodiments, the system includes a rake assembly configured with a drive assembly that is protected from contamination. In accordance with another embodiment of the invention, the self-cleaning litter box is configured to be used with all types of litter including crystal type litter.

2005/029948 A2 III

## 

GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

#### Published:

 without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.